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EXTRA SESSION

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BY THE SENATE,

April 27, 1861.

Read and ordered to be printed.

CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE

GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND

AND THE

SHERIFF OF FREDERICK COUNTY.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

FREDERICK CITY, April 27, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

I herewith transmit to your Honorable Body, a copy of a correspondence between this Department and the Sheriff of Frederick county.

The subject matter thereof, being an incident of the peculiar condition of affairs which you are assembled to consider, I respectfully submit it for your action.

THOMAS H. HICKS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
FREDERICK CITY, April 26, 1861.

To the Sheriff of Frederick County:

SIR—I have received information to the effect that the Virginia troops, now stationed at or near Harper's Ferry, have seized upon and appropriated to their use some property belonging to a citizen of Maryland; said property being at the time of seizure within the limits of Maryland. I am also informed that you have official cognizance of the matter.

Will you do me the favor to furnish me, in writing, with such information as you possess in reference to said seizure.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HICKS.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE,
FREDERICK, MD., April 27, 1861.

To His Excellency, the Governor of Maryland:

SIR—In reply to your inquiry of the 26th instant, I herewith give you a copy of the despatch, received by me, dated Point of Rocks, April 24th, 1861:

To the Sheriff of Frederick County:

My boat, loaded with grain, bound from Berlin to Georgetown, is detained at this point, by order of officers in command at Harper's Ferry. I demand your protection, and will hold the

State of Maryland responsible for said detention, and for all damages done said cargo. Answer.

C. F. WENNER.

To the Sheriff of Frederick County, and the State or Prosecuting Attorney.

I command you to protect my property, that is now being loaded in the cars to go to Harper's Ferry, against my wish or instructions, and I fall on my State for protection and damages. I demand your presence at this point. I will have my rights. The State is bound to give them to me.

Yours, in haste,

C. F. WENNER.

N. B.—There is about two hundred Virginia troops here; everything under their control, since they have taken my boat. It is truly warlike here, with clashing of swords.

They will have discharged by noon—feeding the troops with the oats. There are all troops here.

C. F. WENNER.

Mr. Wenner also called at my office in this city on the 25th instant, and stated the same as above detailed, and also stated that he gave some resistance, until the officers ordered the soldiers to fire, after a minute's notice; and that they refused to give him one of his mules to go home with. And while loading the grain on the cars, he insisted on the grain being weighed by the agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, that he might seek redress, which was denied him by the officers, who stated he might go to Harper's Ferry to see it weighed. He also stated that they took from him grain to feed near one hundred horses, without weighing or measuring; and that the bridge was then ready for destruction, having about six cords of wood and other combustible material thereto attached, to burn and blow up.

The above is all the information that has come to my knowledge respecting the matter.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL H. HALLER.

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